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ACTION: Amembassy ROME

~~PRIORITY~~ IMMEDIATE

STATE

SUBJ: Civair Agreement

DOT plans to issue following press release upon signing of civair agreement:

QUOTE:

1. Secretary of Transportation John A. Volpe said the signing in Rome today of a bilateral air transport agreement between the United States and Italy is an important stimulus to the continuing growth of international aviation.

2. "Each of our great nations by agreeing to greater access for the other's international air carriers is adding to the services available to the traveler and offering increased economic opportunity to the carriers," Secretary Volpe said.

3. "I am confident," the Secretary said, "that this agreement will increase the international trade and exchange of culture between our nations, resulting in still greater expansion

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E/OA/AN - Mr. Styles
EUR/P - Mr. Gehron
DOT - Mr. Binder
EUR - Miss Tibbetts
E/IS - Mr. Boehm

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of service for which this treaty wisely provides.

4. "This agreement is particularly satisfying to me. I have closely followed its negotiation and that interest was one of the reasons for my visit to Italy in October of last year."

5. "Under the provisions of the treaty, Italian carriers are granted the right to serve the cities of Washington, Philadelphia, Detroit, Los Angeles or San Francisco, in addition to New York, Boston and Chicago which already are served by Italian air transport.

6. United States carriers are granted complete flexibility of ~~xx~~ access to Rome and Milan and beyond Rome to 18 countries where around-the-world connections can be made.

7. U.S. passenger flights to Italy may depart from any of the following points:

~~XX~~ Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Washington

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Chicago, Detroit, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Portland, Seattle and San Juan.

8. Service to Italy may also originate at any other point in the United States, so long as the flight's last point of departure is one of the 12 specified cities." END QUOTE

Request Embassy release Secretary Volpe's statement as quoted in paragraphs 2, 3 and 4 above at time agreement is signed.

END

[ROGERS]

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